

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously amended) A method for detecting whether or not a microphone is connected to a real-time audio communication system of a computer comprising:

- recording an audio sample through the real-time audio communication system;
- filtering a DC component out of the audio sample;
- determining values of auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample;
- comparing the values of the auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample with predetermined values;
- determining whether a microphone is properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values; and
- determining whether the microphone is not properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values.

2. (Previously amended) A computer program, residing on a computer-readable medium, for detecting whether or not a microphone is connected to an audio communication system of a computer, comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

- record an audio sample through the real-time audio communication system;
- filter a DC component out of the audio sample;
- determine values of auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample;
- compare the values of the auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample with predetermined values;

compare the values of the auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample with predetermined values;

determine whether a microphone is properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values; and

determine whether the microphone is not properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values.

3. (Previously amended) A computer system running programmed processes comprising a process for detecting whether or not a microphone is connected to an audio communication system of a computer, which process causes the computer system to:

record an audio sample through the real-time audio communication system;

filter a DC component out of the audio sample;

determine values of auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample;

compare the values of the auto-correlation coefficients of the filtered audio sample with predetermined values;

determine whether a microphone is properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values; and

determine whether the microphone is not properly connected to the real-time audio communication system based on the comparison of the values of the auto-correlation function coefficients with the predetermined values.